GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:881
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
CLOSURE OF KVIC OUTLETS
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many Khadi Sales outlets of KVIC have been closed down during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve and modernize Khadi textiles for better acceptability and popularity?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGHPRIYA GAUTAM)

(a) & (b): Due to continuous losses and lack of viability, three Khadi Sales outlets of KVIC at Vishakapatnam, Hyderabad and Lucknow have been closed down since the year 1999-2000.

(c): To improve and modernize khadi textiles for better acceptability and popularity, a number of steps have been taken such as: setting up of sliver plants for supplying quality sliver, availing expertise from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) like Dastkar Andhra and Rural Development Agency (RUDA), Rajasthan, for improvement of the quality as well as imparting training to khadi artisans; tied up arrangements with the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) for developing better designs, fashions etc. in khadi textiles; launching of `Stiff and Soft` finishing process of khadi cloth with the help of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi; and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with Textile Committee to make available laboratories for quality testing/certification of khadi products.